Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association

Annual Report
July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019
Mission

The Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in all forms of art and to establishing programs that will enrich the cultural life of Northern Virginia and the surrounding metropolitan area.

As the primary site for these activities, the NVFAA owns and maintains the historic building called the Athenaeum.

NVFAA programs are open to the public and include:

• Art exhibits, lectures, demonstrations and workshops featuring local and regional artists
• Performing arts events
• Literary, historical events, and culture related educational programming
• Poetry and Storytelling
## Board of Trustees & Staff

### Board of Trustees as of June 30, 2019

- Twig Murray, President
- Ashley Wilson, Vice President
- Anne Kelly, Treasurer
- Sally Jones, Secretary
- Christina Calloway
- Sean Denniston
- Victor Ekpuk
- Renita Johnson
- Amy Heiden,
- Jon Wilbor

### Staff

- Twig Murray, Gallery Director (Pro Bono)
- Veronica Szalus, Executive Director
- Chris Brownlowe, Operations Manager
- Richard Webber, Events Coordinator
The NVFAA presented artworks from 93 visual artists, and hosted 197 performing artists and lecturers artists.

Over the year, the Athenaeum held 33 visual and performing arts events and attracted 11,250 visitors. This included:

• 9 original visual arts exhibitions with artist receptions
• 18 Music concerts
• 3 Dance performances
• 3 Poetry events

In addition to these events listed above, the Athenaeum also hosted yoga, milonga tango and ballroom dance with our partners.

Klye Rasmussen, fire performer who worked with us to create the Art of Dancing with Fire exhibition, artist talk, and fire demo. Photo credit Rob Klug
Art Exhibitions
9 Exhibitions / 9 Artist Receptions / 6 Artist Talks

- **Katie Pumphrey | Five More Minutes | Part II**, June 7 - July 22, 2018
- **The Compass Atelier | Old School, New Concept**, July 26 - September 9, 2018
- **The 2018 Athenaeum Invitational / The Cabinet of Curiosities**, September 13 - November 11, 2018
- **Art of Dancing with Fire**, November 1, 2018 - March 15, 2019
- **Elizabeth Casquiero | Re:Vision**, November 15, - January 6, 2019
- **Fax Ayres | Photography**, January 10 - February 24, 2019
- **Lisa Tubach, Suzanne Yurdin, Rhonda Smith | Water Works and Alexandra N. Sherman | Checks & Balances**, February 28 - April 14, 2019
- **Barbara Januszkiewicz | Lyrical Flight**, April 18 - June 2, 2019
- **Washington Sculptors Group | Notes of Color**, June 6 - July 21, 2019

Notable new exhibit partnerships: Glen Kessler/The Compass Atelier (*Old School, New Concept*) and the Washington Sculptors Group (*Notes of Color*). In addition, the debut of the Art of Dancing with Fire at the Athenaeum.
Art Exhibitions Highlights

Above Left: The 2018 Athenaeum Invitational/The Cabinet of Curiosities, Main Gallery. Above Right: Reception and award presentation for The Cabinet of Curiosities. East City Arts editor, Phil Hutinet, selected the best invited artist and best open call artist awards.

Above Left: The Art of Dancing with Fire, Lower Gallery. Above Right: Barbara Januszkiewicz | Lyrical Flight
Music Concerts Highlights


Featured above: rising French star mezzo-soprano Anna Reinhold, twice-Grammy-nominated harpsichordist Jory Vinikour, and theorbo player Deborah Fox while performing a beautiful program of 17th-century Italian songs including works by Monteverdi, Cavalli, Frescobaldi, and Strozzi.

Saxatones: an outstanding and dynamic a Capella group from Georgetown University.

MIN Flute and Guitar Duo: a delightful crowd pleaser on a Sunday afternoon.
Dance Highlights

Small Creatures Dance Project, interpretive dance responding to Barbara Januszkiewicz’s Lyrical Flight exhibition

A fire performer during The Art of Dancing with Fire demonstration. Photo credit: Rob Klug

Second Glance, a performance by Jane Franklin Dance in collaboration with fine art photographer Fax Ayers. This performance included spoken word segments featuring Fax talking about his work and artistic process.
Poetry / Spoken Word Highlights

An Evening with KaNikki Jakarta, current poet laureate of Alexandria.

Poem in Your Pocket in partnership with the City of Alexandria

AWARE, in recognition of October Awareness month, was created and facilitated by KaNikki Jakarta.

Poets and Spoken Word artists brought awareness through poetry and storytelling that was focused on Breast Cancer, Depression, LGBT History, Muslim Heritage, Bullying Prevention and Domestic Violence.
Educational Programming

In addition to the 33 visual and performing arts events in FY 19, the Athenaeum also provided 25 lectures, talks and workshops for adults and children.

- 6 Artists talks
- 3 Children’s/family workshops
- 4 Write Like a Woman Networking workshops
- 7 History and humanities presentations
- 5 Book events
Lectures, Talks & Workshops Highlights

*Notes of Color Panel Discussion with Mollie Berger Salah, Assistant Curator of the The National Gallery of Art and Jack Rasmussen, the Director and Curator of the American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center.*

*Native Places: Drawing as a Way to See* lecture by Architect Frank Harmon. The following day, Mr. Harmon held a "sold out" urban drawing workshop at the Athenaeum.
Financial Position

The NVFAA's arts and education programs, as well as the historic Athenaeum building, are supported through:

- Membership dues
- Foundation grants
- Corporate support
- Individual donations
- Alexandria Commission for the Arts Operating Support Grant
- Earned revenue consisting of rentals, art sales, and program ticket sales

Rentals of the Athenaeum for business and social events provide the primary source for earned revenue, and all proceeds go directly to the NVFAA's mission-based operating budget.
Our Corporate Sponsorship continues to support the NVFAA. These businesses value the NVFAA's commitment to the arts while also highlighting their commitment to the community in which they reside. NVFAA business sponsors include:

• Advancing Inspiration
• Babs Beckwith
• Christopher H. Jones American Antiques, Folk and Fine Art
• DC Military Tours
• IAMA Ventures
• Lulu Sage Salon and Spa
• McLaughlin Ryder Investments, Inc.
• The Potomack Company
• Teresa Dragoo
• Twig Murray Creative
The NVFAA is in good financial health. Last year we received $251,910 in income against $236,531 in expenses paid.

**Income:** The greatest share of our income comes from rental of the building, second is membership dues and contributions, followed by grants and proceeds from art sales.

**Expenses:** Being 167 years old, it is no surprise our building expenses is our biggest investment, are our second biggest investment is the staff that keeps the Athenaeum going, followed by a variety of overhead costs.
Over $63K was raised through grants from the Historic Alexandria Foundation, The Alexandria Association, and individual donations for our West Wall restoration. This also includes funds to restore the interior plaster on the west wall.

Just 2 more facades to go!
Restoration Highlights

Before Restoration

During Restoration

During Restoration
Restoration Completed
Other key building accomplishments recently completed include 2 new high efficiency fans in the main gallery to keep crowded events cool and comfortable, a new hanging system downstairs to expand our exhibition space and refinished floors upstairs and in the lower gallery.

Ongoing Capital Improvements
We thank all of our members, sponsors, individual donors, the ACA, and the foundations who help us keep our gorgeous, historic building in good condition, open to the public free of charge, and filled with vibrant arts programs!

The NVFAA is partially supported by funding from the Alexandria Commission for the Arts.

Write Like a Woman Networking workshop